Investment in agriculture

*449. SHRI G. G. SWELL:
SHRI CHIMANBHAI MEHTA:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to refer to the answer to Unstarred Question 1715 given in the Rajya Sabha on 24th March, 1995 and state:

(a) what constitutes the investment in agriculture and how it is calculated;

(b) whether it would be possible to increase the investment in agriculture sector in coming period; and

(c) if so, how and to what extent?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI BALRAM JAKHAR): (a) Investment in agriculture referred to as Gross Fixed Capital Formation, includes expenditures on building, improvement and reclamation of land, irrigation works, flood control projects, laying of new orchards and plantations, construction of wells, other irrigation resources, farm houses, barns, animal sheds, etc., agricultural implements, machinery and transport equipments (exclusively used for agriculture) and increments of livestock like breeding stock, draught animals, dairy cattle and other animals raised for wool clipping. Increments in livestock pertaining to other categories of livestock are included under change in stocks. The valuation of various items mentioned above are calculated on the basis of information obtained from different sources, such as, Central/State Budget Documents, Annual Reports of various Undertakings, etc.

(b) and (c) Yes, Sir. The strategy to increase capital formation in agriculture includes enhanced plan outlays and increasing the proportion of planned investment for development of infrastructure, more efficient use of resources to raise productivity and ensuring remunerative prices to farmers to induce them to go for higher investments in agriculture.

Review of vital aspects of SSP

*450. SHRI JOYANTA ROY: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have since reviewed the vital aspects of the Sardar Sarovar Project;

(b) if so, whether Government propose to make the Review Report public;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d) whether the work of the SSP has since been kept in abeyance?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES AND PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI VIDYACHARAN SHUKLA): (a) to (c) The Ministry of Water Resources, Government of India constituted a Five Member Group to continue review discussions initiated during the end of June, 1993 on all issues related to the Project. The Group Submitted its report in a sealed cover on 21.7.94 which was made public on 13.12.1994 on the direction of Supreme Court of India. The Supreme Court requested the Five Member Group to submit its further report on three aspects of the project, namely, Hydrology, Resettlement & Rehabilitation including environmental aspects and Height of the dam. The Group has submitted its further Report in a sealed cover on 17.4.1995 which is presently under consideration of the Supreme Court.

(d) Not so far.

Reforms in examination system

*451. SHRI BHAGABAN MAJHI:
SHRI ISH DUTT YADAV:

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to bring reforms in the existing examination system in the country;